The Pyongyang Times

No. 23 (58) THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1966 PYONGYANG, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Relay runners have brought with them messages to Premier Kim Il Sung from Young Pioneer organizations in various parts of the country Photo by Kim Gwang Su

YOUNG PIONEERS' ANNIVERSARY MARKED

June 6 this year marks the 20th anniversary of the Young Pioneers of Korea. In Pyongyang and in all other parts of the country colourful functions were arranged to celebrate the day.

On June 5 more than 70,000 Young Pioneers from all parts of the country gathered at the Moranbong Stadium in the capital for a grand celebration. At the celebration were present Premier Kim Il Sung and other Party and Government leaders.

Also invited to the meeting were foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang and foreign guests.

As soon as the celebration opened children running the last leg of the relay that had started at the old revolutionary battle site of Boehoebo, at Panmunjom and at other parts of the country, entered the stadium carrying the messages of the Young Pioneers to Marshal Kim Il Sung. The messages were delivered to the Marshal amid thunderous applause.

Comrade Kim Il, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and First Vice-Premier, read a congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the Young Pioneers of the country.

Then Chairman Hong Sun Gwon of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea addressed the meeting. He said:

"The Young Pioneer movement in Korea has brilliant traditions established and precious experiences gained in the 1930's when the Korean Communists waged a guerrilla warfare for national liberation against Japanese imperialism. These traditions and experiences have been inherited by the Young Pioneers of Korea since the country's liberation from Japanese yoke. Since its founding, the Young Pioneers of Korea has done much in bringing up the youngsters into persons who are to shoulder the destiny of the country in future and has done its bit in building a new country. It has developed into a solid organization with a membership of 1,600,000.

"Our Young Pioneers today," he went on, "are extensively unfolding a 'model Young Pioneer squad movement' and a 'do-good-things movement' keeping pace with the Chollima movement.

(Continued on Page 4)

Letter from Chairman of D R V National Assembly

President Choi Yong Kun of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly received a letter from Truong Chinh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, thanking for the full support expressed by the fifth session of the third Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the April 22 statement of the DRV National Assembly.

The letter of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly once again attested to the deep sympathy, powerful support and sincere aid of the Workers' Party, Government and people of Korea to the anti-U.S. patriotic struggle of the Vietnamese people, the letter said, and went on:

Our people are fully determined to defeat the U.S. aggressors and are convinced that we will surely win final victory in our just struggle with our own efforts and with the daily increasing sympathy, support and aid of the peoples of the DPRK and other socialist countries and the peace-loving people of the world.

We Stand Firm By Cuban People

Statement of the D.P.R.K. Government

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declared on May 31 that the Korean people would render every possible assistance to the heroic Cuban people fighting against the U.S. aggressors.

It said this in its statement denouncing the new aggressive moves of the U.S. against the Cuban people.

It extended full support to the statement of Prime Minister Fidel Castro in which he had condemned the U.S. for its aggressive act in the Guantanamo base and clarified the just stand of Cuba.

"The Korean people will stand firm on the side of the fraternal Cuban people in the sacred struggle against the U.S. aggressors, the common enemy, and for the final victory of the cause of socialism and fight to the last together with them," declared the statement.

It demanded that U.S. imperialism stop at once its reckless aggressive acts against the Cuban people.

For the full text of the statement see Page 2.

Architect-US, Aim-Aggressive Mil. Bloc

D.P.R.K. Foreign Ministry's Memorandum on the "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions"

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a memorandum on June 1 in connection with the scheme to convene the "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions" under the direct manipulation of U.S. imperialism.

The memorandum declared:

U.S. imperialism is the architect of the "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions" that is to open in Seoul on June 14, and its real aim is to form an aggressive military bloc spearheaded against the socialist countries and the independent national states as well as against the peoples who have risen in the national-liberation struggles.

The memorandum lays bare the intrigue to convene this meeting and its aggressive nature.

The prevailing situation in Asia today, the memorandum stressed, demands that all the socialist countries and independent national states as well as progressive people of the world pool their strength and resolutely fight against the criminal aggressive acts of the U.S.

For the full text of the memorandum see Page 3.

STATEMENT

Of the Government of the DPRK

Tension is again being created in the Caribbean today owing to the new aggressive moves of U.S. imperialism against the Cuban people.

On May 21, the U.S. aggressor troops occupying Guantanamo of Cuba opened fire on border sentry posts of Cuba killing her soldier Luis Ramirez Ropez.

Following this criminal act, the U.S. Defence Department, reversing black and white, declared on May 23 that "six Cuban soldiers intruded into the Guantanamo base and opened fire." And U.S. State Secretary Rusk said that the United States had even sent a "note of protest" to the Cuban Government.

This is part of the premeditated aggressive moves of U.S. imperialism against the Republic of Cuba and an open challenge to and most shameless brigandish act against the peoples of Cuba and Latin America.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people express surging indignation at and resolutely condemn this grave criminal act of the U.S. against the Cuban people.

From the first day of the victory of the Cuban Revolution the U.S. imperialists have resorted to all sorts of frenzied schemes to strangulate it and prevent it from exerting its influence upon the Latin American people.

They have ceaselessly perpetrated military provocations against the Republic of Cuba including the armed intrusion into Playa Giron and the adventurous act of war in the Caribbean in October 1962.

In flagrant violation of the principles and norms of recognised international law, U.S. imperialism is constantly dispatching its military aircraft and armed vessels into the territorial air and territorial waters of the Republic of Cuba and unscrupulously committing predatory acts.

Along with these military provocations, the U.S. imperialists have pursued the policies of "diplomatic isolation" and "economic blockade" designed to impair the prestige of the Republic of Cuba and lay an artificial obstacle in the way of the Cuban people. They have also continuously sent espionage and subversive agents and counter-revolutionary elements into Cuba in a reckless attempt to break the unity of her people and create internal confusion.

The aggressive moves of U.S. imperialism have become ever more vicious these days when the Cuban people are further strengthening their revolutionary unity, smashing all subversive acts of the enemies at home and abroad.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to justify their criminal acts against the Cuban people under the pretext of warding off the "threat of aggression" from Cuba. This is the stereotyped method employed by the U.S. imperialists every time they invade other countries all over the world.

Recently they have committed more than ten provocations against the Cuban border sentry posts from the Guantanamo base. But they brazenly attempt to shift the responsibility on to Cuba. This clearly reveals their brigandish nature once again.

The Korean people fully support the statement of Prime Minister Fidel Castro in which he condemned the aggressive act of the U.S. imperialists in the Guantanamo base and clarified his just stand.

The provocation in the Guantanamo base was intended to find a pretext with which to start another aggression to strangulate the Republic of Cuba and destroy the bastion of revolution in Latin America.

The entire Cuban people and their armed units today, as Prime Minister Fidel Castro stated, are fully on the alert to cope with any possible provocations of U.S. imperialism and are filled with the determination to fight to the last bullet and to the last man against the enemy.

Whatever military threat or economic and diplomatic pressure U.S. imperialism may use, however, it can never subjugate the Cuban people who have risen up with arms in their hands to defend national dignity and freedom.

The heroic Cuban people will frustrate all the aggressive schemes of U.S. imperialism, staunchly defend their motherland and revolutionary gains and will continue their vigorous advance along the road of socialism, sweeping aside all obstacles in their way.

The struggle of the Cuban people against the U.S. aggressors is a struggle for firmly defending the socialist post in the Western Hemisphere, a struggle for safeguarding peace in Latin America and the world and a just struggle for the progressive cause of mankind.

The Korean people express full support to the Cuban people as well as solidarity with them in their just struggle.

We will stand firm on the side of the fraternal Cuban people in the sacred struggle against the U.S. aggressors, our common enemy, and for the final victory of the cause of socialism and fight to the last together with them.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people will render all possible assistance in every form to the heroic Cuban people fighting against the U.S. aggressors.

The Korean people regard it as their sacred internationalist duty to assist the fighting Cuban people.

The U.S. imperialists must stop at once their reckless aggressive acts against the Cuban people.

If the U.S. aggressors should resort to ill-advised war adventures against the Republic of Cuba, they would suffer the same ignominious defeat as they met at Playa Giron five years ago and would perish in the flames they themselves would kindle.

Nothing can frighten the people of Cuba, a member of the socialist camp enjoying the active support of the progressive people of the whole world, and no one can block the advance of revolutionary Cuba.

The Cuban revolution is invincible.

Pyongyang, May 31, 1966

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN OF PALESTINIAN NAT'L COUNCIL

Choi Won Taek, Chairman of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly, received a message from Ahmed El Shukairy, President of the Liberation Organization and Chairman of the National Council of Palestine, in reply to his message of greetings to the third session of the National Council of Palestine.

In the message he said:

I assure you that the Liberation Organization and the third session of the National Council of Palestine stand forever and firmly by the struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

Pyongyang Rally Supports Cuba

A wave of strong protest against the new anti-Cuba moves of the U.S. is now sweeping North Korea.

On June 3, 20,000 Pyongyang citizens gathered at a rally to express their readiness to give every possible assistance to the Cuban people.

Present at the rally were Vice-Premier Ri Ju Yon, Cabinet Ministers, leading functionaries of public organizations and the generals of the People's Army.

Also invited to the rally were Lazaro Vigoa, Cuban Ambassador to Korea and members of the Cuban Embassy as well as the guests from Latin America presently in our country.

Yun Gi Bok, Minister of Common Education and Chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee, addressed the rally.

His speech was followed by Jo Sung Hun, Vice-Chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, Kim Bong Il, Vice-Chairman of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and Choi Gum Ja, Vice-Chairman of the Korean Democratic Women's Union.

Lazaro Vigoa, Cuban Ambassador, also spoke at the rally.

The rally adopted a message addressed to the Cuban people.

Venezuelan Guests Here

A delegation of the United Centre of Venezuelan Working People arrived here on June 3 to visit North Korea at the invitation of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea.

CHILDREN DONATE AN ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE

A NEWLY-PRODUCED electric locomotive donated by the Young Pioneers called "Young pioneer Locomotive for the Country's Unification" as a token of their desire for the country's unification, left Pyongyang pulling ten passenger cars for Simuju, a border city, at 10:50 a.m. on June 4.

The locomotive was donated to the country by the Young Pioneers on the occasion of the 20th birthday of the Korean Young Pioneers.

The Pyongyang railway station was alive with holiday mood that day. Prior to the departure of the train, thousands of young boys and girls gathered to hold a presentation ceremony of the locomotive.

Present at the ceremony were Comrades Pak Gum Chol and Nam Il and other leading functionaries of the Party and Government and social organizations.

Addressing the ceremony, Kim Jong Suk, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, said that the donation of the locomotive represented the 1,600,000 Korean Young Pioneers' love for the country and desire for the country's unification.

The Young Pioneers, under their midget seven-year plan, raised funds for the locomotive by growing sunflowers, hemps and perilla frutescens, collecting scrap iron and breeding rabbits in their spare time.

At the ceremony, a representative of the Young Pioneers presented Kim Hoe Il, Minister of Railway, with a letter of presentation.

Hwang Yong Sam, engineer who took charge of the locomotive on its maiden journey, said: "The day will surely come when this locomotive runs from Simuju to Seoul and Pusan, breaking down the barrier of the Demarcation Line."

This children's locomotive, with the passenger cars full of young boys and girls, whistled and pulled out amid flying confetti.

Young pioneers celebrating their holiday

Photo by Ri Nam Ho

MEMORANDUM

OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE DPRK

On the "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions"

The U.S. imperialists are now intensifying their criminal schemes against the socialist countries in Asia and against the independent national states and the peoples who have risen in liberation struggles in this part of the world.

The "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions" is to open in Seoul on June 14 with the participation of Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique of South Korea, the Chiang Kai-shek clique and the puppets of South Vietnam, and this meeting is designed to achieve the above aggressive aims. The meeting will further aggravate tension in this region and create a fresh menace to world peace.

In this connection, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea deems it necessary to lay bare the intrigue to convene the U.S.-engineered meeting and its aggressive nature.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to link together their subordinate countries and puppets in the Asian and Pacific regions politically, economically and militarily and align them in a single military bloc. Their aim in this is to perfect their military-strategic system for aggression in Asia.

As is well known, the U.S. imperialists framed up various military blocs such as "NATO," "CENTO," "SEATO" and "ANZUS" for the purpose of materializing their aggressive ambition for world supremacy, and are using them in their vicious machinations against the socialist camp and against the national liberation and national-liberation movements.

The U.S. imperialists have long since been scheming to form a "Northeast Asia military alliance" as part of their overall strategy for aggression in Asia. They want to have the Japanese militarists play the nuclear role here. To this end, they illegally concluded the separate "Peace Treaty" with Japan and the "Japan-U.S. Security Pact" on September 8, 1951, in flagrant violation of international commitments. Earlier, on August 30 in the same year, they concluded a "Mutual Defence Treaty" with the Philippines, and similar treaties were concluded with their puppets in South Korea on October 1, 1953 and with the Chiang Kai-shek clique in December 1954 respectively. Having laid the foundation for bringing them together into a system of multilateral military alliance, U.S. imperialism sped up the rearmament of Japanese militarists.

As far back as 1961 when the separate "Peace Treaty" was signed between the United States and Japan, the then U.S. President Truman said that when the regional agreements for defence in the Pacific developed, the Japanese defence forces under formation would be combined with other defence forces in this part of the world. Later, the then Secretary of State Dulles made the following statement openly:

At present, there are treaties between Japan and the United States, Taiwan and the United States as well as South Korea and the United States respectively. And they are linked up by three lines with the United States as the centre. The necessity will arise in the future of linking them with one line in one way or the other and of forming something like SEATO (at the SEATO meeting in Bangkok in February 1954).

In order to involve Japan, South Korea and Taiwan in a single anti-communist military bloc, the "normalization of diplomatic relations between South Korea and Japan" was an urgent necessity.

On the instructions of U.S. imperialism, the South Korean puppet clique and the Japanese militarists brought the "South Korea-Japan talks" to a conclusion in June 1965 and "normalized" their "diplomatic relations."

It was not only a political and economic compact but, in essence, a military compact between South Korea and Japan.

The "South Korea-Japan Treaty" concluded between the Pak Jung Hi clique and the Sato Government is a direct product of the general policy of U.S. imperialism for aggression in Asia and is directly related to the plot to rig up a "Northeast Asia military alliance" which they have long been weaving so stubbornly.

It is by no means accidental that last February U.S. Defence Secretary McNamara stated at U.S. Congress that the "settlement between Japan and (South) Korea" constituted "a major political milestone in Northeast Asia."

Following the conclusion of the "South Korea-Japan Treaty," the U.S. imperialists started working more feverishly to set up an enlarged aggressive military bloc in accordance with their established policy.

Especially now that it has become impossible for them to recover from their defeat in their aggressive war in Vietnam through the enfeebled "SEATO," they are eagerly following the adventurous line of forming a new military bloc to replace the former. In this connection, the Japanese journal Sekai (No. 4, 1965), had this to say:

"It would be possible to form Northeast Asian defence forces by integrating the 600,000-man South Korean troops and the 500,000-man Chiang Kai-shek army with the Japanese Self-Defence Forces 300,000 strong. Similarly in Southeast Asia, the faithful troops of the Philippines and Thailand might be put together. In this way, an Asian force approximately 2.5 million strong would be formed with Japan as the frontline commander-in-chief — Supreme Command. Would it be possible to use these troops in South Vietnam? Of course, it would, provided they were to be raked up in a hurry, losing the pretext of Asians making a contribution on the side of the United States in South Vietnam."

The U.S. imperialists have already introduced to South Vietnam tens of thousands of puppet troops from South Korea and the mercenaries of Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and the Philippines, converted Japan into a forward base for the aggressive war in Vietnam, into a supply base of arms and strategic materials, and thereby banded them together practically into a single military system. At present, U.S. imperialism is attempting to frame up an enlarged military bloc encompassing all of its satellites and puppets in the Asian and Pacific regions so as to use it as an aggressive force against Vietnam and facilitate its aggression in Asia.

U.S. Vice-President Humphrey's visit to Southeast Asian countries last February was also aimed at laying the foundation for an alignment with somewhat broader and firmer objectives than those of SEATO.

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun of Japan dated April 18 clearly noted that it was a point of departure for the "Seoul Ministerial Meeting" to "form a powerful anti-communist alliance in the Asian and Pacific regions and to build a solid bulwark for the defence of the West in this part of the globe."

To divert the strong opposition and denunciation of the world's peoples against Asia and the world, the U.S. imperialists are trying to get their satellites to camouflage the aggressive and aggressive military bloc with the cloak of "economic co-operation".

Chairman of the Policy Planning Committee of the U.S. State Department Rostow, however, inadvertently laid bare the aim they were seeking through their "economic co-operation" when he said, referring to the "economic development" in the Asian region, that the ultimate goal should be the organization of "common defence" and the establishment of similar other "world communities."

To deceive the people of Asia and the world and conceal their aggressive nature, the U.S. imperialists are putting up on the forefront their satellites and faithful lackeys in the carrying out of their policy of aggression, clamoring that "Asian problems should be solved by the Asians."

U.S. Secretary of State Rusk said last January that it was necessary for the free nations to get together and form an anti-communist system in the Southeast Asian region, excluding the United States, and that the United States would support such a system. He also stated on May 20 that they were quietly intensifying the unification of a specific area getting together and exploring means of regional unity without U.S. participation which was apt to complicate matters, and added that Asian foreign ministers were considering an early meeting in Seoul to discuss Asian problems as a whole.

Top-ranking U.S. officials such as U.S. Vice-President Humphrey, Secretary of State Rusk, and Presidential Envoy Harriman have busily hopped about Tokyo, Seoul, Manila, Bangkok, etc., since the early part of this year and held one secret talk after another to hand out detailed programme of action to their puppets and followers.

The Japanese militarists are actively serving U.S. imperialism today in the implementation of the latter's plan for aggression in Asia and are trying to achieve their expansionist design with U.S. backing.

They have already drawn up concrete plans for aggression in Asia in collaboration with U.S. imperialism.

The top-secret documents of the Japanese Defence Agency, "Operation Three Arrows" plan and the "Operation Flying Dragon" plan based on the former show that the Japanese militarists have made meticulous preparations to attack the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China and the Soviet Union jointly with the U.S. Army.

Japan is taking a direct part in the operations of the U.S. Army for the aggression of Vietnam.

The Sato Government of Japan is, on the other hand, stepping up economic penetration into Asian countries under the mask of "aid," "joint development" and "economic co-operation," using these as means for plunder and enslavement.

Openly advocating the "building of a sphere of influence of its own in Asia similar to the one the U.S. has in Latin America and Britain in the sterling area," the Japanese Government is even planning to "form a joint venture covering the area from South Korea to the Mekong River," convert Japanese currency into "the dollar in the East" and dominate this region.

Japanese monopoly *zaibatsu* have gone to the extent of declaring that "Japan cannot remain indifferent to the absence of her privileged position in Southeast Asia."

It is directly connected with such aggressive designs of hers that Japan is playing the "key role" in the implementation of the U.S. aggressive plan for the formation of an anti-communist military bloc.

With a view to covering up their aggressive aim, the Japanese militarists claim that at the forthcoming "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions" questions concerning "economic and cultural co-operation" should be discussed.

This only serves to patently prove the craftiness of the Japanese militarists.

Japanese journal, Sekai (No. 5, 1966) threw a revealing light on this score: "The agenda should necessarily be of strong economic-cultural tincture in view of the restraints coming from the Government's answer given in an interpellation at the Diet to the effect that Japan will not take part in an Asian military alignment and that the ROK-Japan talks have nothing to do with the formation of a 'Northeast Asia military alliance'."

The projected meeting is a criminal anti-communist scheme to serve the U.S. and Japanese imperialists in realising such an aim.

On their master's orders Pak Jung Hi and his clique, the most faithful stooges of U.S. imperialism, took upon themselves the sponsorship of the "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions."

Pak Jung Hi and his clique have paved the way for the Japanese militarists to stage a comeback to South Korea by hurriedly signing the treacherous "ROK-Japan Treaty;" while, frequently inviting U.S. puppets in Southeast Asia to South Korea, they called on U.S. puppets of "Malaysia," Thailand and Chiang Kai-shek clique last February and had secret talks with them on the question of the "Seoul Ministerial Meeting."

The U.S. puppets in South Korea themselves admitted that Pak Jung Hi's tour was "aimed at laying the foundation for the formation of another military alliance to lead the anti-communist war in Vietnam to victory" and boasted that while U.S. Vice-President Humphrey's Asian tour was "a political move to draw more armed forces of Asian countries into the Vietnam war, the tour of Southeastern nations by Pak Jung Hi during which he laid stress on joint aid to Vietnam gave decisive help to the U.S. in implementing this plan." (Seoul, February 18, 1966, Radio Jung-ang).

It might be recalled that throughout its history from Syngman Rhee to Pak Jung Hi, the puppet regime in South Korea, as a cat's-paw of U.S. imperialism, has invariably been engaged in opposing the national-liberation movement of the Asian and African peoples and in disturbing peace.

When the imperialists invaded Egypt in 1956, the puppet regime in South Korea declared that it would even send volunteers to fight against the Egyptian people and help the imperialists. It pledged friendship with the Tshombe clique of the Congo (L), the inveterate enemy of the African peoples, as well as with the Government of the South African Republic and actively supported them; in league with Israel, it is engaged in various subversive activities against the Arab people.

Just as a Korean saying goes, "Thread follows needle." Pak Jung Hi and his clique are on the heels of the imperialists wherever the latter commit crimes.

When he visited the United States in May 1965, Pak Jung Hi endeavoured to demonstrate his loyalty to his master by declaring that "the Republic of Korea is the very comrade-in-arms of the United States that will, at least in Asia, go with the States and Stripes for ever" (Washington, May 17, 1965, South Korean news agency Donghwa).

That Pak Jung Hi's regime in South Korea is a *dyed-in-the-wool* puppet acting as U.S. orders is seen also in the fact that it has contributed tens of thousands of troops to serve as cannon fodder in the U.S. war of aggression in South Vietnam.

Little wonder, even a newspaper in South Korea said that "when it comes to questions involving the United States, no one can hardly tell whether the South Korean government is acting in the interests of the United States or of its own people" (South Korean paper *Chosun Ilbo*, January 29, 1965).

Pak Jung Hi clique are today trying to win more favour of U.S. imperialism by materializing the convocation of the Seoul meeting and to maintain their military fascist regime in reward for their service in this undertaking.

They are planning to infiltrate into Asian and African countries under the name of "friendship" and "co-operation" with their peoples. This is also aimed at carrying out their master's policy of aggression on his behalf.

All this clearly shows that U.S. imperialism is the architect of this "Seoul Ministerial Meeting" and its real aim is to form an aggressive military bloc spearheaded against the socialist countries and the independent national states as well as against the peoples who have risen up in the national-liberation struggles.

The convening of the meeting is another challenge to the Asian, African, Latin American peoples and the progressive people of the world who are fighting for liberation, national independence peace and social progress.

The present situation in Asia demands that all the socialist countries, independent national states and all the progressive people of the world pool their strength and resolutely fight against the criminal aggressive acts of U.S. imperialism.

It is an urgent problem to oppose the holding of the Seoul meeting and smash the scheme of the U.S. for the formation of another military alliance in Asia.

The peace-loving nations and people of the world will never tolerate the aggressive moves of the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese militarists who, with the former's backing, have embarked upon reaggression in Asia.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people will wage a resolute struggle against the convening of the "Ministerial Meeting of Asian and Pacific Regions" and for smashing the new aggressive plots of the U.S. menacing the security of the socialist countries and the independent national states.

June 1, 1966

Young vacationers heading for the mountain (at the Sok'am Young Pioneer Camp)

At a Young Pioneer Camp

A day at the Sok'am Young Pioneer Camp dawns with a flourish of bugles.

More than 700 children run out toward the broad promenade by the lake. They have morning exercises there. A day of the Sok'am Young Pioneer Camp has begun.

Sok'am is a recreation ground surrounded with fine scenery, situated at a distance of an hour's ride on a north-bound train from Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea.

A green pine grove surrounds the marble buildings of the Pioneer Camp like a folding screen presenting a fine spectacle. But more beautiful is the scenery of Lake Kyongryong.

The daily routine of the children at this resort is very colourful. They take part in various circle activities such as physical training, games, music, dance and fine arts. Besides, they climb mountains, have a row on the lake, take photographs, go fishing and practice in cooking rice.

Mountaineering

Most popular with the young vacationers in today's programme is mountaineering.

A climbing party heading for Bongjiwa Mountain has reached a valley. Bush warblers, skylarks and many other birds fly about in the forest singing merrily. Squirrels leap from branch to branch. Some children are engrossed in collecting plants and insects. Among them is an inquisitive girl from Pyongyang named Ae Sun. Her vinyl basket is already filled with scores of kinds of plants for botanical specimens.

The van of the climbing party succeeds in hanging a rope from a cliff for others to climb. Children having attained the top shout hurray like triumphant soldier. They see the camping ground lying below.

Seen on the lake are tens of boats. A boat race is going on.

Azure is the sky, blithe do I feel,
Sing, my accordion, merrily and gayly!
Wonderful is our motherland,
Where all live in harmony...

Their silverly voice echoes through the mountains.

Art Groups

"The young vacationers can do what they like according to their tastes. We have over 100 rooms including those for the music, dance and fine arts groups.

"We have more than 200 musical instruments. Our facilities make it possible for hundreds of children to take part in physical training and various games at a time," said an instructor of the Pioneer Camp.

I dropped in at a room where young artists were drawing pictures. I saw pictures reflecting various aspects of the children's life at the camp. Out in the corridor, I heard the sound of a piano coming from somewhere.

Story Telling

As I entered the Young Pioneer office room a gathering for story telling was being held there. Children talked on various topics. Yong Ran, who had returned home from Japan last year and joined camping for the first time, was saying:

"Before starting for the Young Pioneer Camp this time I asked the head of our class committee of the Young Pioneer organization how much money I should bring. I knew the expenses for camping or for resting at the holiday homes are all free of charge in our country, but I did not know the State bears even the travelling expenses of the vacationers. The camping life is more interesting and pleasant than I heard and imagined before."

In the evening we left the camp for home. Merry songs, laughters and sounds of musical instruments were flowing out of the brightly-lit rooms and clubs.

Stars were glittering in the sky. Looking up at the glittering stars, I felt a sudden joy thinking of the happy future of our children.

Pak Ung Gil

"Be always ready!" This is the motto of the Young Pioneers

The parade has just begun

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of the grown-ups. As a result, such beautiful practice of helping and leading forward each other is prevalent among our boys and girls and they live and study in harmony.

"The happier we become, the greater sympathy we should show to the children in South Korea who are in distress under the oppression by the American imperialists and their lackeys and the more resolutely we must fight for independence and give every form of support and encouragement to the children of Vietnam fighting heroically against the Yankee aggressors."

The meeting adopted a letter addressed to the children in South Korea fighting against the U.S. imperialists and Pak Jung Hi and his clique.

The meeting also adopted a letter addressed to the children of Vietnam fighting courageously against the common enemy, the American aggressors.

Then a parade of the Young Pioneer organization began.

As soon as the parade was over, thousands of children ran up to the rostrum and cheered waving bouquets and shouting "Long live Marshal Kim Il Sung!" "Long live the Workers' Party of Korea!" The stadium turned into a sea of flowers. Thousands of balloons of all colours were released to soar into the azure sky.

Premier Kim Il Sung waved his hand in answer to the enthusiastic ovation of the children.

Then an athletic meet of the Young Pioneers from the capital was held at the stadium.

That evening the best numbers selected at the national contest of children's art groups were staged at the theatre of the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace.

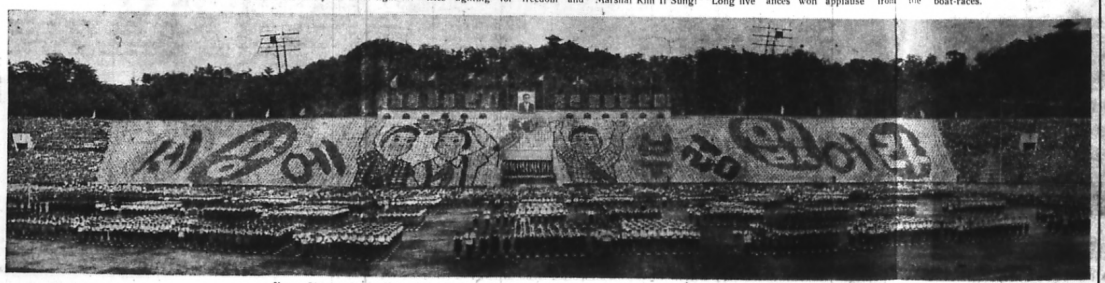
Premier Kim Il Sung and other Party and Government leaders saw the performances.

Children's colourful performances won applause from the audience.

Earlier, on June 4, "Prize of honour for Korean children" and "Premier's prize" were awarded to model Young Pioneers.

On January 6, the 20th anniversary of *Sonyon Sinmun*, a newspaper for children, was observed. Order of National Flag, first class, was conferred on this paper on the occasion.

The programme for the celebration of the children's holiday in the capital and the localities also included various celebrations, exhibitions, song and dance performances, athletic meets, balls, and boat-races.



Young Pioneers in the Moran-bong Stadium, Inscription in the background reads: "We have nothing to envy in the world"

BOY GUERRILLAS

Strange Soldiers

CHANG GYU walked into the courtyard of Jong Nam's house with a nonchalant air. Some strange soldiers were lying at full length in the room and others were sitting on the threshold. A short, plump and a chunky fellow was leaning against the doorpost of the kitchen. He was pressing Jong Nam's mother for a chicken in a threatening tone. He was wearing a pistol.

"To tell the truth, a breeding hen is all we have," Jong Nam's mother made a wry face embarrassingly.

"Bosh! You refuse to serve us with chicken. Is this the way you receive the People's Army men? Who are you to behave that way? We'll look into your family background." The chunky fellow threatened.

Some were snoring in the room.

"I earnestly pray for your mercy. It's our breeding hen. I've never seen such pitiless People's Army men as you."

"You're resisting the People's Army! Do you want to land yourself in trouble?" the Chunky drew his small pistol. Jong Nam's mother turned deadly pale. Both Jong Nam and Chang Gyu startled.

Report to Commander

Snatches of talk in Japanese were coming from the room. A fellow sitting on the door-sill said to the Chunky: "Too much bargaining. Shoot the hen right away."

"Look! You've so many eggs here!" the Chunky reached for a basket of eggs on the shelf in the kitchen, and sucked some of them himself and shared the remainder among his fellow-soldiers in the room.

About this time a fat hen was toddling her way to the front yard after something to eat. A shot rang out shaking the house and the hen fell headlong clapping its wings.

"These odd fishes must be puppet army men. The People's Army never does the population harm," Chang Gyu thought to himself and took chestnuts out of his pocket, gave some to Jong Nam and ate one himself.

"Give me some chestnuts!" demanded the Chunky.

"We've no more on hand, we'll bring some if you want."

"Go ahead!"

Chang Gyu hurried out of the courtyard. "Commander, they are puppet army men," Chang Gyu pantingly reported to Choi Gap Ju, commander of the boy guerrilla detachment.

Gap Ju clenched his fists and ordered Chang Gyu to go and wait for a chance for attack and give a signal by warbling when he had got chance. The commander along with some of his men ambushed themselves around Jong Nam's.

Chang Gyu gave the Chunky the chestnuts he had brought. A voice cried for chicken soup in the room. "It shall be ready soon," answered Jong Nam's mother. In the room Chang Gyu found only one rifle standing against the partition.

He went towards the rifle and pretended to clean it with his handkerchief.

Bush Warbler

"Jong Nam, do you know how to warble?" Chang Gyu, who had watched a chance, asked him.

"Pshaw! How can man warble?" answered Jong Nam.

"Hey, don't touch the rifle," shouted one of the soldiers who were devouring chestnuts.

"I've just finished cleaning the rifle," said Chang Gyu.

And then he, turning to Jong Nam, imitated warbling by a whistle.

"Ha! Ha! you're just like a bush warbler," the Chunky remarked.

At this moment the backdoor was flung open and Gap Ju with a pistol in his hand rushed into the room, shouting: "Hold up or you'll be shot!"

The eyes of Gap Ju were fiery. Chang Gyu, too, jumped to his feet and picked up the rifle at the doorpost and levelled it at the enemy. The terror-stricken enemy soldiers raised their hands holding chestnuts. The Chunky and another enemy soldier who had stood his rifle against the doorpost belittled the boy guerrillas and tried to draw their pistols. But they were shot then and there, six others were bound with electric wire.

At this moment the backdoor was flung open and Gap Ju with a pistol in his hand rushed into the room, shouting: "Hold up or you'll be shot!"

Distinguished Services

Then operation continued. One day they decided to attack U.S. army cars at the proposal of Gap Ju. They cut a motor road on a mountain slope under cover of night and waited for enemy trucks to come. Eventually an enemy truck appeared and pulled up where the road was cut. A Yankee jumped down from the truck. A shot rang out and he was killed on the spot. The shot from Gap Ju's pistol was followed by handgrenades. The boy guerrillas smashed the truck with the handgrenades captured from the enemy.

This is a story about a boy guerrilla detachment which fought against the U.S. aggressors and 15 of their satellites in the winter of 1950 when they were temporarily occupying North Korea.

The boy guerrilla detachment called "bush warbler" operating in an area of Kangwon Province included Gap Ju, a son of a model peasant killed by the enemy, Chang Gyu and Jong Nam and six other boys. They were aged from 12 to 15 then. The nine boy guerrillas fought gallantly in defence of their home village. The guerrillas started with a pistol which a People's Army officer had captured from the enemy and presented to Choi Gap Ju.

The boy guerrillas under his command attacked the Ibeing U.S. army vehicles, cleaned up the enemy stragglers and fulfilled scouting missions creditably to help the People's Army with its operations.

For this they were awarded the Distinguished Service Order for Soldiers and received letter of commendation from the State.

Many boy guerrilla detachments operated in Anju, Kosong and in other areas gallantly fighting in defence of their homeland behind the enemy lines during the enemy's temporary occupation.

Yun Chol Won

ART FESTIVAL

The Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace was lately the scene of a national children's art festival in honour of the 20th birthday of the Korean Young Pioneers. Taking part in the festival were some 1,000 children who had been selected at provincial preliminary contests.

Many good pieces were presented at the festival which is held annually.

Poetry recitation in chorus "The Day is Sure to Come" by pupils of Chosan middle school of Jagang Province, masked dance "Little Stock-Breeders" by pupils of Pyongwon middle school of South Pyong-an Province, song and dance "Water Mill by the Gaema River" by pupils of Hochon middle school of Ryanggang Province and other entries won acclamation.

The festival owes its success to the wide-spread art activities among the Young Pioneers.

The preliminary contests at county level this year drew all of the schools in counties. And those schools enjoying fame for their earlier success presented pieces better than those in the preceding years.

Korean national instruments ensemble "Morning on a Farm" was especially good. Listening to its overture, one feels as if seeing before his eyes the morning scene of a farm amidst the humming of tractors.

Also good were instrumental performance "Our Lovely Mountain" by pupils of Bongsan middle school of North Hwanghae Province and solo dance "I Saw Seeds of Flower" by a pupil of Chonma middle school of Chongjin City.

Pak Sung Man

Korean national instruments ensemble "Morning on a Farm" performed by pupils of Namseog Middle School, Sinuju City

Above the Announced Figure: 10,000 Men

TO SOUTH VIETNAM

According to a June 1 dispatch of Donghwa Tongshin of South Korea, the Seoul puppet government announced that a "logistical unit" of 5,000 men would be accompanying one army division that is to be sent to South Vietnam in August on the U.S. instructions.

The "Defence Minister" of the Seoul regime said that two "logistical units" with a total strength of 10,000 men would thus be operating in South Vietnam and that a "perfect logistical command" be set up there.

This is the first disclosure about South Korea's logistical unit sent to South Vietnam. Pak Jung Hi and his clique have covertly dispatched 5,000 puppet troops to South Vietnam in excess of the announced figure, and are planning to send another batch of 5,000 men.

WORKERS FIGHT IN DEFENCE OF THEIR RIGHTS

Workers of the "Korean Service Corps" under the U.S. occupation army in South Korea, according to a broadcast from Seoul, issued a statement on June 4 through their trade union, voicing their censure of the Yankees' knavish scheme to trample down the workers' fundamental rights.

The statement noted that the U.S. army authorities intended to bypass the fundamental rights of the workers of the "Korean Service Corps" and then denounced the move as being unjust for it infringed upon the workers' rights.

Should the U.S. army authorities persist in their scheme to trample down the workers' right to labour dispute and other fundamental rights, the strongly-worded statement declared, the 30,000 Korean workers employed in U.S. army organizations throughout South Korea would fight to the end in defence of their fundamental rights.

These workers, who are paid starvation wages even falling short of minimum living costs and are subjected to racial discrimination and ill-treatment, have been fighting against the U.S. army authorities for the right to live and the democratic rights since the close of 1965.

More S. Korean Pilots for S. Vietnam

According to a news report from South Korea on June 3, Pak Jung Hi and his clique are scheming to send to South Vietnam another batch of 30 air servicemen including transport plane pilots.

This planned dispatch, along with the recently revealed large-scale troop dispatch under the name of "logistical unit," shows that the Pak Jung Hi clique have begun to send troops to South Vietnam any time they receive orders from the Pentagon, without going through even the nominal procedure.

SEOUL STUDENTS DENOUNCE SUPPRESSION

On June 3 students of College of Liberal Arts and Science of Seoul University rose up against the ever intensifying fascist suppression of academic freedom.

The day coincided with the second anniversary of the June 3 uprising of the South Korean youth and students against the rapprochement of South Korea by the Japanese militarists and for the overthrow of the puppet regime.

According to a broadcast from Seoul, some 400 students of the above-said college held an indignation meeting on the morning of June 3 in denunciation of the fascist intelligence activities Pak Jung Hi and his clique carry on by smuggling secret agents into the college to keep watch over the movements of the students.

At the meeting they adopted a six-point ultimatum addressed to the college authorities. Some of the points read:

"We categorically reject the intelligence activities aimed at splitting the students' ranks" and "Stop at once the act of placing the college paper in the service of the government."

According to another dispatch, the students went on a sit-down strike at 1:30 p.m. the same day defying the suppression and persecution of the college authorities.

Earlier, on June 2, students of this college had an indignation meeting on the campus to protest against the scheme of the college authorities to hamper the students' free activities.

What Did They Fight for?

— 70-ODD-DAY-LONG HEROIC STRUGGLE OF S. KOREAN STUDENTS —

Some time ago the Seoul district criminal court sentenced Kim Jong Tae and other students to penal servitude from one to two years.

These students are young patriots who fought bravely at the head of the students of the College of Liberal Arts and Science of Seoul University during the struggle for smashing the "South Korea-Japan talks" in 1964.

In the spring of 1964 the Pak Jung Hi regime in South Korea, on the instructions of Washington, was making a traitorous bargain with the Japanese militarists who had placed Korea under their control for 36 years, in order to allow the latter to come back to South Korea. Their schedule was to conclude the "South Korea-Japan talks" in March, to sign a "South Korea-Japan Treaty" in April and to have the "Treaty" ratified by the "national assembly" in May. This sparked off the resistance of the students in South Korea for national salvation against the traitorous "South Korea-Japan talks."

The struggle, started by the demonstration of the students of the College of Liberal Arts and Science of Seoul University on March 24, developed into a massive struggle involving 310,000 students from 53 universities and colleges and 173 middle and high schools throughout South Korea as well as 20,000 patriotic-minded citizens. On June 3 it became an anti-government riot in defiance of the fascist suppression, appeasement and deception by the puppet regime.

Shouting "Down with the Pak regime," "Crush Japanese imperialism," and "U.S., don't interfere in the South Korea-Japan talks," the students and people in Seoul stormed the Seoul City Hall and police stations clashing with the police who desperately tried to break up their advance. As a result, the ruling machinery of the puppet regime went paralyzed. The U.S. imperialists and their puppets' Seoul regime proclaimed martial law and called in more than 50,000 soldiers. But in face of the resolute struggle of the students and citizens they were compelled to suspend the "South Korea-Japan talks" which they had sought to bring to an early conclusion.

Last year Pak Jung Hi and his clique at last signed and ratified the "South Korea-Japan Treaty," putting down by force the nation-wide struggle the students and people waged between April and August.

The conclusion of the "South Korea-Japan Treaty," in combination with the "U.S.-Japan Security Pact" and the "South Korea-U.S. Mutual Defence Pact," meant in actuality paving the way for a tripartite military alliance of the United States, Japan and the South Korean puppets. Developments in the days that followed testify to the justness of the struggle waged by the students and people of South Korea against the "South Korea-Japan Treaty."

The dispatch of large troops to South Vietnam by Pak Jung Hi, accelerated preparations for another war in South Korea, Japan's large-scale armaments expansion and full-scale overseas aggression and the current scheme to form a single anti-Communist military bloc in Asia—all these developments have unfolded with the "South Korea-Japan Treaty" as their starting point, and are based upon it.

They are aimed not only at invading Korea but also opposing the socialist camp, suppressing the national-liberation struggle in Asia and keeping under U.S. control those nations in Asia which hold to the principle of independence and independent development.

Pak Jung Hi and his clique at the instructions and instigation of Washington, subject the people of South Korea to more cruel fascist terrorism. But the students and people keep up their struggle.

They are more awakened and steeled in the course of the struggle.

The spearhead of their struggle is directed straight at U.S. imperialism. They have developed in depth and scope the struggle for an end to the colonial rule the U.S. imperialists are enforcing over South Korea through their puppet regime.

Ri Byong Soh

Students drag plainclothes men down from a police truck (Seoul, June 3, 1964)

FROM SOUTH KOREAN PRESS

Sad "Children's Day"

The "Children's Day," a children's holiday, causes a great sorrow to many little hearts, said South Korean daily Ryongnam Ilbo (April 23).

It went on to say: "Children of well-to-do and very rich families can afford to spend this day pleasantly.

"The children of this category, however, make up barely one per cent of the total of the children. This presents a serious problem. Only one out of a hundred can enjoy the holiday. Isn't it a deplorable state of affairs? As economic distress of the population grows worse, children of poor families are all undernourished. Very often we feel a strong urge to turn our eyes away from the sight of little living skeletons as thin as dead branches. Indeed, this is typical of the tragic situation. Poverty spells untold pains and sorrows to little children."

Little as they are, they know how hard their life is from their daily experience of hunger and humiliation. Their parents are too poor to send them to school, and that is why they are ignorant.

S. Korean Children in FACTS AND FIGURES

- There are more than one million school-age children who do not attend school.
- This year over 18,000 classrooms are short at primary schools. This figure does not include makeshift classrooms and tent classrooms.
- Number of children who are not provided with regular meals is:

April 1963	1,084,000
April 1964	1,023,000
April 1965	1,860,000

- The number of shoe-shine boys and chewing-gum selling boys of teenage accounts for over 200,000.
- Some 100,000 children roam about the streets, begging or collecting something to eat in a heap of rubbish.
- There are over 1.4 million T.B. patients who need an immediate treatment. Ten per cent of them are primary school pupils.

KOREAN NATION IS ONE

KIM SOK HYONG,
Academician and Dr. of History

(Continued from our previous issue)

Korean people's national unity was most strikingly demonstrated when foreign aggressors invaded their country.

Strong National Consciousness

For scores of years from the late tenth century to the early 11th century Goryo had been subjected to repeated invasions by a big Kitan army from the north. Though the war against the Kitan aggressors was fought mainly in the northern part of the country, people in the southern part did not remain a spectator. They regarded the aggression as the one against themselves and readily responded to mobilization and call-up. When the feudal state failed to take the whole affair into their hands the Korean people never failed to put their national unity into action.

During the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598) against the aggression by the Japanese samurai our people formed volunteer units and, operating along with the Government army, rendered distinguished services in defence of their home country.

The above instances belong to the middle ages in our history.

The middle ages were, in general, marked by local separatism, though its degree varied according to countries.

Local separatism and parochialist trend were also to be found in the life of our people in the middle ages. But such a negative trend in Korea in the middle ages was negligible and this is explained by the nation's tradition that it had frequently to fight against powerful foreign aggressors and by the conditions of life that the nation had been under a centralized government for long years. This proves, therefore, that our people's consciousness of national unity was so strong.

The people of Korea were drawn into the vortex of modern life in the latter half of the 19th century.

In Korea capitalism developed in the midst of struggle against the foreign aggressors, the worst the Koreans had ever fought.

The entire people of Korea were united closer in the course of the struggle against the American aggressors in 1866-1871 and the struggle of the armed volunteers against the Japanese invaders from the late 19th century to the early 20th century.

National Unity

Japanese imperialism reduced our country to its exclusive colony in 1910 and then cruelly suppressed and exploited our people. Japanese imperialist rule over Korea roused our people to a resolute struggle, in the course of which their national and class consciousness was further enhanced.

The March First Movement (1919) was a nation-wide struggle of the Korean people which dealt a telling blow to Japanese imperialism.

It demonstrated, among others, how strong our people's consciousness of national unity is and what a powerful might it displays.

Following the March First Movement, in the 1920's and afterwards the working class movement became the core in the national-liberation movement of the Korean people and the movements of peasants, youth and students were all led by the Communists from the outset.

The banner of national liberation was hoisted higher by the Communists in the 1930's. In organizing and leading the anti-Japanese armed struggle in the 1930's the Korean Communists set the overthrow of Japanese imperialism and national independence as the first and foremost task.

Under grim days of Japanese colonial rule, therefore, our people of all walks of life saw their future in the anti-Japanese armed struggle of the Communists led by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

This shows that the historically formed consciousness of national unity was further consolidated during the armed struggle.

Unextinguishable Flame

The defeat of Japanese imperialism in the Second World War opened up the way for Korea's liberation and independence. But when our people were still in excitement with joy over the country's liberation, the territory was bisected at its waist by the 38th parallel. Originally, the 38th parallel was proclaimed to be a temporary demarcation line between the zones of Soviet and U.S. troops, the need of which rose for disarming the defeated Japanese forces. The Soviet forces fulfilled their obligation and completely withdrew from North Korea in 1948. But the U.S. forces, far from withdrawing from South Korea, started the aggressive war in Korea in 1950. But they were made to kneel down before the people of Korea by the latter's heroic struggle and ever since the cease-fire in Korea they have entrenched themselves south of the Military Demarcation Line to confine with their occupation of South Korea.

Korea is a single nation without any national minorities.

The Koreans are a people with strong national consciousness.

The desire for unification burning in the hearts of the people in both parts of Korea has found concrete expression in the successful socialist construction in North Korea and in the struggle of the people in South Korea against U.S. imperialism and its stooges over the past twenty years. The unextinguishable flame will surely develop into a conflagration which the American imperialists will never be able to put under control.

(The end)

Recollection of Our Visit To Syria

KIM BONG HAN

In September 1965 when we paid a visit to Syria, Damascus, the capital of our host country, was alive with guests from foreign countries and different parts of Syria who had come to visit the international fair there.

Damascus

Our party spent pleasant days in Syria amidst the warm hospitality of the Syrian people.

A few days after our arrival, President Nureddin Atlassi personally received our party and warmly welcomed us as honoured guests from far-off Korea.

He said that he was well aware of the active support of the Korean people to the Arab people in their just struggle for the liberation of Palestine and made an inspiring remark: "We should join our efforts in our fight against foreign aggression."

During our stay in Syria we visited the international fair being held there. The Syrian hall was displaying the fruits of the Syrians' own efforts — various light industry and farm products — which told us that the Syrians are a talented and hard-working people.

The brave struggle of the Palestinian people for the liberation of their homeland and their return to it was represented in the works of graphic arts, photographs and oils on show at the fair.

Every visitor to the Palestinian hall was indignant at the criminal barbarities committed by the U.S. imperialists and Israeli expansionists in Palestine.

Oil painting "A History of a Woman," above all, left a deep impression on the visitors to the Palestinian hall.

Aleppo

We also visited Aleppo.
We paid a visit to an ancient castle.
The curator of the Aleppo museum who acted as our guide proudly said: "Our ancestors were courageous in fighting the foreign aggressors. Our people today, therefore, like their forefathers, are brave in the struggle against the foreign invaders."

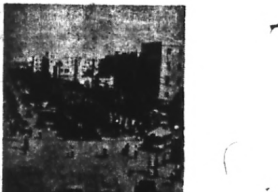
When we visited a textile mill in Aleppo, the workers there said: "We should fight courageously and in firm unity against the foreign aggressors to liberate Palestine and South Korea."

Listening to them, we felt that the people of Syria, like the Koreans, had deep sympathy for their oppressed compatriots and that they were bitterly indignant at the imperialists who were imposing disasters upon other nations.

Everywhere we went we were accorded warm welcome and heard the Syrian people talk about the friendly relations with our country.

Short as our visit to Syria was, it was a meaningful one full of amicable feelings.

The friendly relations between our two peoples will be further deepened and cemented as days go by.



Street scene of Damascus, the capital of Syria

U. S. Military Operations and Japan's Duty

According to AFP dispatch from Tokyo, Japanese Foreign Minister Shiina spoke at Japanese Diet session on June 1 in defence of the visit to Yokosuka naval port by a U.S. atomic submarine: "Japan is duty-bound to offer its establishments including Yokosuka naval port for use by U.S. forces, for U.S. military operations in Vietnam contribute to peace and security in the Far East."

Earlier, Japanese Prime Minister Sato announced that the American war of aggression in Vietnam had a "vital bearing" on Japan, and, accordingly, Japan would render "assistance more than a moral one" to the U.S. war efforts.

The statements of Japanese Prime Minister and Foreign Minister represent clearly and conclusively the present Japanese Government's attitude towards the Vietnam war.

It is obvious that the discharge of this "duty" naturally demands of Japan not only the placing of her naval ports and other establishments at the disposal of the U.S. but also the supply of materials and manpower to it.

But Shiina, his seniors and juniors had up to this time made pointless, equivocal statements in this regard. But now Shiina discarded all temperance and cautiousness and made an official and circumstantial avowal, leaving no trace of ambiguity.

There are some reasons which impelled him to do so.

One is that they have gone so far that they can no longer cover up, by any camouflaging, what they have actually done for the Vietnam war, in other words, they can by no means conceal the true colours of Japan as a virtual participant in the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam.

Another reason — this can be regarded as the reverse side of the same shield — is that they have no choice but to give an open challenge to broad segments of the Japanese people and public opinion of Asia and the rest of the world that stand opposed to the remilitarization frantically accelerated by Sato and his clique and to Japan's active involvement in the ever vigorous execution of the U.S. policy of aggression in Asia which is taking place simultaneously with the remilitarization.

Sato and his colleagues have realised that no jargons and deceptive gestures will stand them in good stead.

Anyway, the Sato Government has been compelled to make its banner clear. Needless to say, they had, for their part, a definite calculation in assuming the "duty" of helping the United States in its aggressive war.

Asia will surely make the Japanese militarists, who have appeared on the scene as a U.S. agent and partner in its aggression, pay dearly for their criminal undertakings.

Choi Si Hwan

Johnson at Arlington

According to press reports from the United States Johnson made an address at the national cemetery in Arlington last May 30.

It is a touch of human mind to feel pious when one attends a ceremony at a cemetery.

But U.S. President Johnson revealed himself to be a man nonconforming to such an ordinary norm.

He availed himself of his appearance at the cemetery to hurl vile slanders upon the Buddhists of South Vietnam among whom there have recently been increasing cases of self-burning.

But no one can deny that their self-immolation is in protest against the Washington ruling circles that have plunged South Vietnam into such a helpless plight as we see today.

Nevertheless, Johnson wasted, by his roguish slander, to check the influence their death may exert upon the American and world public, and to ward off the denunciation they will arouse for their crime of having caused those innocent Buddhists to kill themselves.

But this is futile.

Johnson's address did not stop here.

In his address he remarked that the return to a constitutional government in South Vietnam will be successful only when the internal trouble is ended and that the plan for compromising and democratic elections will be likely to be implemented in that country unless "aggression" is stopped.

Thus, Johnson has revealed himself that the so-called "elections for the establishment of a constitutional government" which the American imperialists and the Cao Ky clique have put up in fear of the ever mounting anti-American and anti-government struggle of the South Vietnamese people are nothing but a fraud he had to practice as a stopgap measure.

To put it tersely, through his speech at Arlington, Johnson tried, on the one hand, to order the South Vietnamese people including the Buddhists to end their struggle against the American imperialists and the Cao Ky clique and yield meek obedience to their fascist arbitrariness and, on the other, to reaffirm his consistent support to the Cao Ky clique.

All facts show that there can be neither democracy nor peace in South Vietnam and countless disasters and sacrifices are in store for the South Vietnamese people, so long as the Yankee aggressors remain on Vietnam soil.

Choi Sung Won

Football

Letters to the Training Camp

"I've learned you are having practice with our national team for the forthcoming World Cup Finals. Through newspapers and radio, I know well how you've played. I know what role you play at matches and how many goals you have to your credit. You are to go to London, and I hope you'll do well there. Booting in as many goals as you can. This is to tell you I'm resolved to achieve good results in my work to emulate your success at the London tournament."

This is a passage from a letter Pak Du Ik received from a girl working at the Hamhung Electric Appliances Factory.

The training camp of Korea's World Cup contingent receives many encouraging letters every day. So far there have been 2,300 letters and over 100 telegrams from steel workers, lumberjacks, fishermen, colliers, textile workers, farmers and students who have wished the players good success at the World Cup tournament.

"We've taken fresh encouragement from your letter. In order to justify your expectations, we have smart practice turning to best account every bit of time now, an important stage in our training as the day of our appearance draws nearer," said Sin Yong Gyu replying to many letters addressed to him.

Letters have come from football fans

Mother

A few days ago, the mother of Pak Sung Jin came to the training camp. At a dining table she admiringly remarked: "Your cooks here have as good knowledge of the boys' taste as their mothers. Really wonderful!"

"Our neighbours," the mother went on, "are very anxious to know how you are going about. When evening comes, grandmas and lads come and ask me about you. I tell them you are doing all right. But they want to know more than what I say. So I've come to see for myself. From your looks I can see how you're going at it."

The players who happened to be in the dining hall that evening were greatly struck with the words of the visiting mother.

The players know well what they should do to meet the expectations of the people who give them great encouragement. To realize their resolve, they spare no effort.

Pak Hae Chon

Table Tennis

NEW FACE:

From 9th to 2nd Place

Remarkable progress of newcomers was one of the features of the recent table tennis tournament where both veterans and novices competed for laurels.

Matches were played on a round robin basis in each group in the preliminary stage, and the group winners met at a championship series to decide the final placings.

Among the newcomers, Kim Gwan Bae from the Rodongja club made an especially good showing. He joined the club in October last year and his placing jumped from ninth in February to second recently.

He defeated such excellent players as Kang Nung Hwa and Won Tae Hwang before he fought his way to the finals to take on Pak Sin Il, a noted player. As a matter of fact he surprised the spectators when he beat veteran player Kim Yong Sam 3:2 in the semi-finals.

The successful performances of this 21-year-old player, who eliminated not a few of the veterans, go to indicate the good prospects of our young players.

A player with a pen-holder grip, he is agile and quick in judgement. Characteristic of his playing style is top-spin drive, which he chiefly employs in his offensive and defensive tactics. He accurately returns any of the ball by top-spin drive at any position. His top-spin drive is so fast and effective that even Kang Nung Hwa, who would scarcely fail to return the top-spin drive, was forced to go down.

New star player Kim Gwan Bae

Since he joined the club Kim Gwan Bae has worked hard to acquire a variety of tactics while assimilating the experience of the veteran players. He has shown remarkable progress in back-hand shot, in net play and in switching from one movement to another. Powerful top-spin drive plus back-hand shot enabled him to fight his way as far up as the second place at the recent tourney.

This promising player is expected by many table tennis experts to become the reigning champion before long.

Song Ho Sun

Swinging

Saleswoman Wins Seven Contests

Visitors to the Daedoogmun grocery in the central part of Pyongyang will find a tall saleswoman of solid build who is always kind to her customers. She is our celebrated swinging master Kim Ok Sil. She is twenty-seven years old now. Since she first participated in the swinging contest held in the capital at the age of 18 she has carried off a total of 18 medals: seven for the first place, two for the second, one for the third and two for new records.

Even after her marriage she did not give up the swinging and has bettered her records. She is now a mother of two children. Yet she retains her first place in swinging.

Swinging is one of the traditional games popular among our womanhood. A single or a pair of girls stand on a swing to play the game.

Swing used to be tied to a thick bough of a tree in the past (it is still tied to a tree in places at present) and a twig or a twig in blossom was hung in mid-air as a target in order for the contestants to touch it to decide the winner.

But at stadiums nowadays a bar is put up in place of a bough for having the swinging which has become one of our national games and a ring is used as a target. The target can be lifted and lowered by pulling the rope attached to it.

Ri Chang Mun

Saleswoman Kim Ok Sil

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT KOREA?

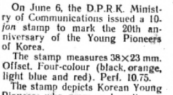
Administrative Division

Korea has been artificially bisected due to the American occupation of South Korea.

Administratively North Korea is divided into provinces (cities directly under the central government), cities and counties (districts in the cities directly under the central government) and *ri* (townships as the county seat and workers' settlements in the industrial centres).

North Korea has nine provinces and four cities directly under the central government. They are: South Pyong-an Province, North Pyong-an Province, South Hwanghae Province, North Hwanghae Province, Kangwon Province, South Hamgyong Province, North Hamgyong Province, Jagang Province, Ryanggang Province; Pyongyang, Kaesong, Hamhung and Chongjin cities.

Pyongyang is the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

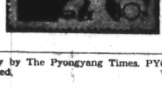


On June 6, the D.P.R.K. Ministry of Communications issued a 10-*jon* stamp to mark the 20th anniversary of the Young Pioneers of Korea.

The stamp measures 38×23 mm. Offset. Four-colour (black, orange, light blue and red). Perf. 10.75.

The stamp depicts Korean Young Pioneers who grow up happily enjoying the deep solicitude of the state. In the background is a column of children who, with their Young Pioneer flag at the head, march carrying with them boards with the inscription "knowledge," "virtue" and "a sound body."

On the left is the Korean Young Pioneers' badge bearing words "Be always ready!"



THE PYONGYANG TIMES. Published every Thursday by The Pyongyang Times. PYONGYANG, Democratic People's Republic of KOREA
Any articles in the Pyongyang Times can be reprinted. Price 10 *jon* No. 13014